



CONGRESSMAN VITO J. FOSSELLA

A REPORT OF CONDITIONS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUBWAY
STATIONS IN THE 13TH CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICT OF BROOKLYN

8505 4TH AVENUE
BROOKLYN, NY 11209

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INTRODUCTION

CONGRESSMAN VITO J. FOSSELLA'S REPORT OF SUBWAY STATION CONDITIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

In March, 2007, Congressman Vito Fossella commissioned a survey of subway stations in the 13th congressional district of Brooklyn, which includes the neighborhoods of Gravesend, Bensonhurst, Dyker Heights and Bay Ridge. The objective of the survey, conducted with Community Boards 15, 11, and 10, was to review the conditions at each subway station, analyze the data, and provide recommendations to ensure that commuters have stations that are clean, comfortable and safe. The survey and report will be forwarded to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) for its review, along with a request that the agency implement as many of the recommendations as possible. The survey identified conditions at the street, mezzanine and platform levels.

The survey included the following stations in the 13th Congressional District in Brooklyn and within Community Boards 15, 11 and 10:

Avenue U (F line)	Avenue X (F line)
Kings Highway (F line)	25 th Avenue (D line)
20 th Avenue (D,M lines)	18 th Avenue (D,M,N lines)
79 th Street (D,M lines)	71 st Street (D, M lines)
95 th Street (R line)	77 th Street (R line)
Bay Ridge Avenue (R line)	

In recent months, Congressman Fossella has secured agreements from the MTA to remove graffiti from the bases of the elevated F line on McDonald Avenue between Avenue X and Quentin Road. In addition, with the cooperation of Senator Martin Golden and the MTA, the 86th street station in Bay Ridge will have a comprehensive renovation.

AVENUE U STATION (F line)- on McDonald Avenue

Grade: F

Street Stairs

The wood sub-surfaces of some of the steps are loose and creek when walked on. In addition, the rubber anti-slip treads are not adhered properly to the stairs.

Mezzanine (Token Booth Area)

This area, including the floor, ceiling and walls, are in average condition with no signs of any major repairs needed.

Subway Platform

The stairs leading to the platform are extremely rusty and dirty. The paint on the walls are peeling and in desperate need of a complete repainting (photos attached- Exhibit A). In addition, the area below the subway platform is plagued with graffiti and rust (photos attached- Exhibit B).

The station's subway platform, including the stairs, walls, and track area, is in need of a complete renovation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Complete renovation of subway platform area, including stairs, walls, and track area.
- Repairs to street stairs

AVENUE X STATION (F line)- on McDonald Avenue

Grade: D

Street Stairs

The wood sub-surfaces of some of the steps are loose and creek when walked on. In addition, the rubber anti-slip treads are not adhered properly to the stairs.

Mezzanine (Token Booth Area)

This area, including the floor, ceiling and walls, are in average condition with no signs of any major repairs needed. Area is dimly lit and in need of power wash cleaning.

Subway Platform

There is some rust build-up below the subway platform. The stairs to the platform, track walls and the rest of the area is in average condition with no signs of any major repairs needed. Platform area in need of power wash cleaning.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Repairs to street stairs
- Correct rust build-up below subway platform
- Power wash mezzanine and platform areas
- Improve lighting in mezzanine area

KINGS HIGHWAY STATION (F line)- on McDonald Avenue

Grade: B+

Street Stairs

The street stairs are in good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed.

Mezzanine (Token Booth Area)

This area, including the floor, ceiling and walls, are in very good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed. It is brightly lit and extremely clean.

Subway Platform

The stairs to the platform, track walls and the rest of the area is in good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed.

The overpass that connects the entrances of this station on McDonald Avenue between Avenue S and Colin Place is plagued with graffiti and rust (photo attached- Exhibit C).

The overall condition of the rest of the station is very good.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Removal and general clean-up of overpass that connects the entrances of this station on McDonald Avenue between Avenue S and Colin Place

25th AVENUE (D line)- on 86th Street

Grade: A

Street Stairs

The street stairs are in good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed.

Mezzanine (Token Booth Area)

This area, including the floor, ceiling and walls, are in very good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed. It is brightly lit and extremely clean.

Subway Platform

The stairs to the platform, track walls and the rest of the area is in good condition, with fresh paint and no signs of any major repairs needed.

The overall condition of the rest of the station is very good.

20th AVENUE (D,M line)- on 86th Street

Grade: A-

Street Stairs

The street stairs are in good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed.

Mezzanine (Token Booth Area)

This area, including the floor, ceiling and walls, are in very good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed. It is brightly lit and extremely clean. In addition, the off-waiting area is in excellent condition.

Subway Platform

The stairs to the platform and the rest of the area is in good condition, with fresh paint and no signs of any major repairs needed. However, there is some deterioration on the bottom parts of the platform walls.

The overall condition of the rest of the station is very good.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Repair bottom parts of platform walls

18th AVENUE (D,M, N line)- on New Utrecht Avenue

Grade: B-

Street Stairs

The street stairs are in good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed.

Mezzanine (Token Booth Area)

This area, including the floor, ceiling and walls, are in very good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed. It is brightly lit and extremely clean. In addition, the off-waiting area is in excellent condition.

Subway Platform

A new banister is needed on the staircase going up to the subway platform to the Coney Island-bound trains. The stairs to the platform have some spaces between them and are in need of minor repairs. There is some graffiti in the track area. However, the rest of the area is in good condition, with fresh paint and no signs of any major repairs needed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Place new banister on the staircase going up to the subway platform to the Coney Island bound trains
- Repair stairs to subway platform
- Remove graffiti in track area

79th STREET (D,M line)- on New Utrecht Avenue

Grade: B-

Street Stairs

The street stairs are in good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed.

Mezzanine (Token Booth Area)

This area, including the floor, ceiling and walls, are in very good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed. In addition, the off waiting area is in excellent condition.

Subway Platform

The stairs to the platform have some loose spots. There is also some deterioration of the platform floor as enter trains. In addition, all benches on the subway platform have graffiti on them.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Repair stairs to subway platform
- Reinforce platform floor as enter trains.
- Remove graffiti off benches in platform area

71st STREET (D,M line)- on New Utrecht Avenue

Grade: B-

Street Stairs

The street stairs are in good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed.

Mezzanine (Token Booth Area)

This area, including the floor, ceiling and walls, are in very good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed. In addition, the off-waiting area is in excellent condition.

Subway Platform

There is some deterioration of platform floor as enter trains. In addition, there is graffiti and rust in the track area. The stairs to the platform and track walls are in good condition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Reinforce platform floor as enter trains.
- Remove graffiti & rust in track area

95th Street (R line)- on 4th Avenue

Grade: B-

Street Stairs

The street stairs are in good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed.

Mezzanine (Token Booth Area)

This area, including the floor and ceiling, are in good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed. However, wall tiles need to be cleaned and missing tiles need to be replaced.

Subway Platform

The stairs to the platform and the rest of the area are in good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed. However, there are some tiles missing from platform walls.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Replace tiles on walls at mezzanine and platform levels.
- Clean tile wall areas.

** This community is a “Naturally Occurring Retirement Community” (NORC) and has no handicapped access for disabled persons to obtain subway service. Elevator access should be implemented.**

77th Street (R line)- on 4th Avenue

Grade: B

Street Stairs

The street stairs are in good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed.

Mezzanine (Token Booth Area)

There are vast amounts of peeling paint on the ceiling as riders enter the mezzanine level from the street. The walls near the token booth need to be power washed. The rest of area is in good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed. The off-waiting area is in very good condition.

Subway Platform

The stairs to the platform and the rest of the area are in good condition with no signs of any major repairs needed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Repaint ceiling area as enter mezzanine level from street.

** This community is a “Naturally Occurring Retirement Community” (NORC) and has no handicapped access for disabled persons to obtain subway service. Elevator access should be implemented.**

Bay Ridge Avenue (R line)- on 4th Avenue

Grade: D

Street Stairs

The street stairs are cracked and uneven in several places. This represents a potential safety hazard for riders and needs to be repaired.

Mezzanine (Token Booth Area)

There is peeling paint on the ceiling and walls on the mezzanine level.

Subway Platform

The floor is in need of power washing and peeling paint on the ceiling needs to be repaired. There are reports of flooding in this area when it rains.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Repairs to street stairs
- Paint mezzanine level ceiling and wall as enter mezzanine level.
- Power wash floor and repaint ceiling at subway platform level
- Repairs to alleviate flooding conditions

** This community is a “Naturally Occurring Retirement Community” (NORC) and has no handicapped access for disabled persons to obtain subway service. Elevator access should be implemented.**

CONCLUSION

CONGRESSMAN VITO J. FOSSELLA'S REPORT OF SUBWAY STATION CONDITIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Our goal is to ensure that subway riders in Bay Ridge, Bensonhurst, Dyker heights and Gravesend have access to clean, safe and well-maintained subway stations. We have provided a series of recommendations and common sense improvements for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) to enhance the overall appearance and safety of the 11 stations location within the 13th Congressional District.

The survey found that the majority of stations are in relatively good conditions but could benefit from MTA maintenance actions, including the removal of graffiti, minor repairs to stairs and platform floors, and removal of rust and peeling paint in platform areas. We found that the Avenue U station is in the most dire need of renovation while the 25th Avenue station was in the best condition.

With the upcoming renovation of the 86th street in Bay Ridge, a major transportation hub in our community will receive a long overdue renovation thanks to \$6.68 million in federal funding secured by Congressman Fossella, \$2 million from Senator Marty Golden and the remaining funds from the MTA. We conclude that the renovation of the 86th Street station should serve as a model for the MTA to enhance all the subway stations in Bay Ridge, Bensonhurst, Dyker Heights and Gravesend.